



AF/ 2823
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re the Application of:

OKU et al

Serial No.: 09/903,764

Filed: July 13, 2001

For: FILM FORMING METHOD,
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND
SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE
MANUFACTURING METHOD

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) Examiner: K. Nguyen
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) Art Unit: 2823
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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION OF JUNE 8, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

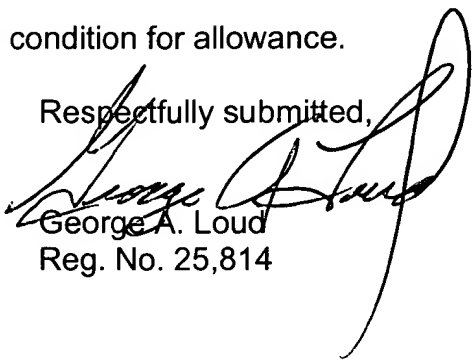
Sir:

The rejections under 35 USC 102(a) and 35 USC 103, as set out in the office action of June 8, 2004 are both based on European Application Publication No.

1,174,915 - "Junichi." Both the rejections are respectfully traversed for the reason that Junichi is not prior art against the captioned application. Junichi was published January 23, 2002, well after the July 13, 2001 filing date to which the present invention is entitled.

In view of the fact that there is no other outstanding rejection, it is respectfully submitted that the captioned application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



George A. Loud
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Dated: August 2, 2004

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